REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 2, 2008. Claims 1 to 23 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1 and 9 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 5 to 10 and 13 to 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 7,206,804 (Deshpande). Claims 3, 4, 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Deshpande and U.S. Published Appln. No. 2002/0033837 (Munro). Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to a method of displaying a digital image for creating a multimedia content, the image being coded in multiple resolutions,. The method includes determining the set of resolutions present in the coded image; obtaining the coded data of the sub-images associated with each of the previously determined resolutions; decoding the obtained coded data so as to obtain a sub-image associated with each previously determined resolution; and displaying all the sub-images.

In contrast, Deshpande describes a method and system for transmitting digital images, wherein image data encoded using JPEG2000, which is a scalable encoding format, are transmitted from a server to a client via the HTTP protocol.

An index file can be downloaded by the client, for example from a Web server. The index file may contain information about an image, for example taken from the main header (column 4, lines 11-14). The index file may also comprise information on the available resolutions.

A thumbnail image is also transmitted to the client. Then the client can zoom so as to receive a higher resolution of the same image (see, for example, Figures 9 and 10). The

thumbnail image and a higher resolution image are represented on the same display window. As specified by Deshpande (column 12, lines 35-37), the client application "requests the data needed at the desired resolution and displays the higher-resolution image 116 to the user in graphics window 110".

In contrast, in a system in accordance with the present invention, all the data necessary to decode all intermediate resolutions that can be extracted from the multi-resolution image representation are obtained before any user request to view a given resolution.

In one aspect of the invention, all available resolutions are simultaneously displayed (Figure 3b). In another aspect of the invention, the switch from one resolution to another can be done by clicking on a "watermark" window.

Furthermore, Munro discloses a method in which a multiple-image viewer concurrently displays and manipulates separate images in a single window in a network system. The problem solved in Munro, as expressed in paragraphs [0004] and [0005], is that in most client-server systems, images are displayed separately, each in a different window, which might be impractical for a user.

The multiple-image viewer supports displaying images having multiple levels of resolution. The file structure described for the storage of multiple resolutions contains several sub-pictures at various resolutions (paragraph [0048]). It is mentioned that the multiple-image viewer automatically determines which blocks are within the window and only requests and decodes those blocks of data (paragraph [0049]).

Also, in paragraph [0046], it is specified that "if for example the user zooms in on an image above the predetermined setting, then the multiple-image viewer would request for the next higher resolution of the image."

Therefore, Munro discloses the possibility of displaying simultaneously in the same window several resolution levels, but Munro does not disclose the features of:

(i) obtaining all data corresponding to all possible image resolutions and

(ii) decoding said data before displaying the images.

Hence, none of the cited prior art documents discloses or suggests the features of Claim 1 by which the data corresponding to all possible resolutions are obtained and decoded before any display to a user.

In light of these deficiencies in Deshpande and Munro, Applicants submit that these references, either alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest all of the features of Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

Claim 9 is directed to an apparatus substantially in accordance with the method of Claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants submit that Claim 9 is also in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

The other pending claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

CONCLUSION

No claim fees are believed due; however, should it be determined that additional claim fees are required, the Director is hereby authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 50-3939.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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